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U.S. Centennial Of Flight Commission and Inventing Flight: Dayton 2003 Announce Alliance

The U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and Inventing Flight: Dayton 2003 have announced their partnership to promote upcoming activities and events that will celebrate the 100th anniversary of powered, controlled flight in 2003 and the history and future of aviation.

The partnership will capitalize on the Commission's mandate to serve as a national and international source of



Orville and Wilbur Wright

information about activities to commemorate the centennial of the Wright Brothers' first powered flight on the sands at Kitty Hawk, N.C., on Dec. 17, 1903.

The alliance also will build on Inventing Flight's status as a community-based organization set up to promote aviation, the Wright Brothers and the role of Dayton, Ohio, in the birth and future of flight.

"We are pleased to be able to work so closely with Inventing Flight: Dayton 2003," said U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission Chair General John R. ("Jack") Dailey. "This is a tremendous opportunity for us to work together to communicate to the nation, and the world, the significance of the Centennial of Flight commemoration and all the exciting activities planned for it."

"Inventing Flight and the Commission have a common goal," said Inventing Flight Executive Director Madeline Iseli. "This alliance provides the opportunity for our organizations to create a synergy that will further excite and exhilarate our nation and the world."

The U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission (COFC) was created by the U.S. Congress to advise the President, Congress and federal agencies on the most effective ways to encourage national and international commemoration of the achievements of Orville and Wilbur Wright and the centennial of powered flight.

The Commission hopes to generate enthusiasm for the commemoration by

publicizing and fostering programs and events that will involve, educate and inspire the maximum number of people. The Web site of the Centennial of Flight Commission is at: <http://www.centennialofflight.gov>

Inventing Flight was founded in 1989 to promote aviation, the Wright Brothers and especially the role of Dayton, Ohio, in the birth and future of aviation. Drawing from the rich history of the Wright Brothers, Inventing Flight will launch a once-in-a-lifetime event culminating in the Centennial Celebration in July 2003. More information can be found at: <http://www.inventingflight.com/>

The six members of the Centennial of Flight Commission represent the First Flight Centennial Foundation of North Carolina; Inventing Flight: Dayton 2003 of Ohio; aeronautical societies, foundations and organizations outside of Ohio and North Carolina, represented by the President of the Experimental Aircraft Association; the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum; the Federal Aviation Administration; and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

***October is
Fire
Prevention
Month***



Goddard Quarterly Honor Award Recipients

Congratulations to:

Dave Ward and Kenneth Hall, GN&C Systems Engineering Branch, who received the Customer Service Excellence award.

Wallops Flight Facility Cable Plant Documentation Team received an award for Institutional Support Infrastructure

Barton Bull, GN&C Systems Engineering Branch, who received an award for Institutional Support Programmatic

Flight Modem Team received an award for Institutional Support Programmatic

Wallops Shorts.....

On the Road

Keith Koehler, Public Affairs Office, was guest speaker for the Wicomico County Rotary Club and participated in the Community Hope Program held at the Chincoteague Civic Center recently.

On September 26 and 27, Les McGonigal visited 2nd and 3rd grade students in Farmington, Minn. and assisted a Farmington Girl Scout troop in completing requirements for their Aerospace Patch.

Rich Rogers, Aircraft Office, spoke to 4th grade students at Salisbury Christian School about aircraft and weather on October 5.

Balloon Launches

A NASA scientific balloon was successfully launched from Ft. Sumner, N.M., on October 4. The 11.82 million cubic foot balloon carried a payload to measure solar diameter to an accuracy of .04 inches on a total of about 20,000 observations at several telescope rotations. Dr. Sabatino Sofia, Yale University was the principal investigator.

A NASA scientific balloon was successfully launched from Ft. Sumner, N.M., on October 11. The 4 million cubic foot balloon was to flight test various new long duration and ultra-long duration balloon subsystems including a flight computer, TDRSS transponder and cap with Argos transmitter. Bryan Stilwell, National Scientific Balloon Facility, was the principal investigator.

Combined Federal Campaign

The theme for this year's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), which runs through October 31, is "What a Difference a Day Makes".

The CFC provides an opportunity to easily make contributions through payroll deductions or by making a one-time donation. The decision to make a contribution is your choice. When you are contacted by a co-worker who has volunteered to serve as a CFC key worker, please take the time to consider the CFC as a way you can help your neighbors, your friends, the less fortunate, or those who have experienced tragedy in their lives.

Anyone with questions or who have not received CFC information should contact Wallops Chairperson, Regena Haugh on x1530 or Co-chairperson, Pam Taylor on x1068.

A Dry, Cool End to Summer

by Bob Steiner, Meteorologist

With an average monthly temperature of 67.4 degrees, September was 2.4 degrees cooler than normal. There were 20 days during the month when the high for the date was below average and 19 nights when the low was below average. No record temperatures were set or tied during September. The warmest temperature recorded was 84 degrees on September 10. The coolest temperature recorded was on the morning of September 29.



A total of 2.21 inches of rainfall was recorded during the month, and we still fell 1.32 inches short of the September average for this area of 3.53 inches. The greatest amount of rainfall recorded was a total of 1.32 inches that fell on September 20 and 21. Measurable rain fell on 10 days during the month, three more than is normal.

As the days shorten and get cooler, we begin to dig out the jackets and sweaters. We lose an hour of daylight after work when we return to Eastern Standard Time on October 28.

The average daily high begins in the mid-60s early in November falling to around 50 degrees by the end of the month. Overnight low temperatures at the first of November are in the upper 40s and drop to just below 35 degrees during the end of the month. The record high for November is 83 degrees recorded on Nov. 1 and again on Nov. 4, 1974. The record low of 19 degrees has been reached three times, Nov. 16, 1967; Nov. 27, 1974; and Nov. 24, 1976.

November has an average measurable precipitation of 2.76 inches, some that could be in the form of sleet or snow.

The hurricane season officially ends the first of November and then it's time to prepare for colder weather. Don't let cold weather sneak up on you. Enjoy the coming holidays to the fullest.

CFC Fun Day Celebration

As part of the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) a Fun Day Celebration will be held on November 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Pavilion.

Activities will include a volleyball tournament, bake sale, 50/50 raffle, the annual chili cook-off, bottle rocket contest, a "blast from the past cutest baby contest" and more! Lunch includes hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and soda. The cost is \$3 for lunch and entry to the festivities. Proceeds to benefit the Local Combined Federal Campaign.

To register for the volleyball tournament, enter the chili cook-off or to volunteer with fun day activities contact Regena Haugh, x1530, as soon as possible.

FEHB Premiums to Jump Again

Premiums in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program will increase by an average of 13.3 percent in 2002, the fourth straight year of increases in or around the double-digit range. Since 1998, FEHB premiums have increased an average of nearly 50 percent. For 2002, the average self-only biweekly premium will rise \$4.32 to \$40.89, while the average family coverage biweekly premium will rise \$11.57 to \$92.10. The open season for enrolling in FEHB or changing plans, levels or types of coverage will run November 12-December 10, with elections effective January 1.

Plans Continue to Drop Out

Another FEHB trend of recent years also will continue in 2002: the dropout of health maintenance organization plans. Twenty-eight HMOs, are dropping out of the plan in 2002. Aetna and Prudential are ending coverage in certain areas.

Officials attributed the dropouts to mergers and acquisitions in the health industry, along with the failure of some plans to attract enough enrollees to make it worth their while to participate in the FEHB. Five HMOs are joining the program for 2002.

Big Changes for Blue Cross

Blue Cross/Blue Shield will carry out several significant changes. The Blues are merging their current high option into their standard option plan; high option enrollees will be transferred automatically to the standard option unless they choose other coverage.

Meanwhile, the Blues are creating a new "basic option"—a lower cost offering that restricts benefits almost entirely to preferred network providers. The standard option self-only premiums will increase \$6.86 per biweekly pay period to \$41.12, while standard family premiums will increase \$13.92 to \$94.83 biweekly. Rates for the new basic option will be \$31.60 for self-only and \$75.74 for family coverage biweekly.

The Blues also are dropping a "point of service" test program that had been in effect in 10 localities, affecting about 390,000 enrollees. Since the pilot project was a feature of the standard option, those enrollees will remain in the standard option unless they change coverage.

New Telephone System Arrives Soon

The new Siemens telephone system is scheduled to be fully operational at NASA Wallops Flight Facility on November 12. The transition will include the Main Base and Island telephone system for all NASA and Navy personnel. All personnel will keep their current telephone number and phone mail features.



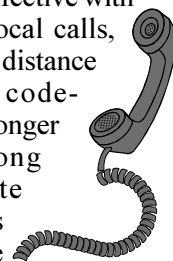
Beginning the week of October 22, NetVersant, a sub-contractor for Siemens will be placing new phones in all locations. These will not be operational until November 12. Do not plug them in, move them or lock them away. They will be connected for each employee and all old equipment will be removed over the Veteran's Day weekend (November 10 and 11).

Telecommunication Service Requests will not be processed through November 26. Limited emergency requests will be handled on an approved basis.

Training on the new system is recommended and can be accomplished through computer-based training or by signing up for a "hands-on" class beginning October 29 in Building F-3. For more information and details on training visit: <http://wff-aries/wisat/telephone>.

Some changes will be effective with the new system. For local calls, dial 9-number. For long distance calls, dial 9-1-area code-number. There will no longer be a dial "8" for long distance. The on-site emergency number is 911. Phones will be marked with 911 stickers. Wallops emergency staff also will be reached at extension 1333.

Questions may be directed to Jay Savage, x1276, or Andi Wessells, x1234.



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